

**From:** Larry Stanley  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
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Red Hat is right. Microsoft has us right where they want us.

With the XP operating system, they are closer to totally controlling the desktop of any consumer who buys their product. This is the first time they have been able to keep a direct communication link - through the Internet - with their Passport requirement. We can't even change a modem without permission from them!!

Here is what will happen.

Microsoft will place their systems in all of the schools they can. All the computers will run XP. It will cost the school systems tons of money (people time) dealing with supporting the computers. Microsoft will eliminate all the Apple MacIntosh systems from the last bastion of that company. Apple will disappear.

Microsoft will be king of the school systems computer labs, etc.

On the other hand, the alternative is to allow open source into the picture to keep Microsoft "honest".

Red Hat, for example, and other Linux OS providing companies, can provide the CD's - that will be their only cost - to allow the school systems to have as many computers running as they want without worrying about licensing issues. The OS will run on less powerful computers - thus saving money to the schools.

Let's get some competition in there. That is the only thing Microsoft understands.

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